



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

# News Release



**For Immediate Release**

January 15, 2015

For more information

Call (831) 338-8883

**FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES AT BIG BASIN REDWOODS STATE PARK**

Located 9 miles outside of Boulder Creek on Hwy 236 (831) 338-8883

**Coffee Talk and Crafts**

**Sunday, February 1 from 9-12**

**AND Saturday, February 14 from 9-12**

**AND Saturday, February 28 from 9:30-12:30**

Come to the Sempervirens Room next to Park Headquarters for free coffee or hot chocolate! This is a great way to start your day in Big Basin. A Big Basin Docent will be happy to answer your questions about the park and help get you going on the right trail. And there's a fun craft activity for the kids!

**Redwood Loop Walk**

**Sunday, February 1 at 1 pm**

**AND Saturday, February 7 at 2:30 pm**

**AND Saturday, February 21 at 11 am**

**AND Sunday, February 22 at 12 and 2 pm**

**AND Saturday, February 28 at 1 pm**

How do these grand redwoods grow to be so old? So tall? How are they important to humans? Join us for this fun and informative guided half-mile stroll through a magnificent old-growth redwood forest. Meet the famous Mother Tree, the Father of the Forest and the incredible Chimney Tree on this 90-minute walk. Stroller and wheelchair accessible. Meet at Headquarters.

**The Road Less Traveled—A Dog-Friendly Walk**

**Sunday, February 1 at 11:30 am**

**AND Sunday, February 8 at 10 am**

**AND Sunday, February 22 at 10:30 am**

On this dog-friendly walk, we travel on North Escape Road, a paved road closed to traffic. We tour stunning old-growth redwood groves along beautiful Opal Creek. We'll discuss redwood ecology and park history while exploring the deep shade of the redwood forest. This is a fun, easy, three-mile, two-hour roundtrip walk. Dogs not required, but welcome! Bring water and meet at Park Headquarters.

**Discover Big Basin Redwoods!**

**Sunday, February 1 at 12 pm**

**AND Sunday, February 8 at 12 pm**

**AND Saturday, February 14 at 12 pm**

**AND Sunday, February 15 at 12 pm**

**AND Saturday, February 28 at 12 pm**

Explore some of the park's less travelled backcountry with docent naturalist Barry Grimm. This hike will be individually tailored to your group—so distance can vary from 2 to 8 miles, depending on your needs. The pace is always moderate—with occasional short stops to discover the park's unique animals, plants and other natural features. Based on group size, experience level and weather conditions, we will choose from the many trails that explore the park's most scenic areas. Dress in layers for changeable weather and temperatures. Bring sturdy walking shoes, water and trail snacks. Heavy rain cancels. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Mushroom Hunt!**

**Sunday, February 8 at 2 pm**

**AND Sunday, February 15 at 2 pm**

Big Basin is home to many different species of fungi. Some look like our traditional pizza mushrooms, but others are wildly colored, strangely shaped, very small, smelly or slimy. Come join Ranger Emily Bertram as she hunts for mushrooms. Learn of the important role they play in the forest, who eats them and how to identify them. This is a family friendly, easy 1.5-hour walk. (Picking mushrooms in a state park is illegal, so we'll just be looking.) Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Romance in the Redwoods Weekend**

**Saturday and Sunday, February 14 and 15**

Love is in the air at Big Basin! Celebrate Valentine's weekend in the romantic Big Basin redwoods. Start your day with complimentary morning hot coffee and cocoa around the stone fireplace in the park's historic visitor center. Choose a challenging walk to an ocean view, a fun walk to see how some birds, beasts and plants of Big Basin reproduce, a romantic hike through old-growth forest, a hike to see our spectacular falls, go on a hunt for mushrooms or show your love for Big Basin by volunteering to clear the trails. Bring a picnic lunch to share with your sweetheart, and maybe even spend a romantic evening in the park's comfy tent cabins.

### **Coffee Talk and Crafts**

**Saturday, February 14 from 9-12**

Come to the Sempervirens Room next to Park Headquarters for free coffee or hot chocolate to warm your heart! This is a great way to start your day (and year!) in Big Basin. Docent Kathy Willott will be happy to answer your questions about the park and help get you going on the right trail. And bring the kids for a fun craft activity!

### **Volunteer with the Trail Crew**

**Saturday, February 14 at 9 am**

Since 1969 the Big Basin Volunteer Trail Crew has helped make it possible for others to safely enjoy the beauty of our park. The Trail Crew meets the second Saturday of each month, rain or shine. A typical workday lasts until mid-afternoon. Please bring your own work gloves, lunch and water. Join us for a unique perspective of Big Basin, a lively and productive experience with others who share a love of these redwood forests, and the

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satisfaction of participating in a vital part of the park's ability to educate and inspire the public! Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Hike to Buzzard's Roost**

**Saturday, February 14 at 10 am**

What is more romantic than a mountain top view of the ocean? Use your hiking muscles this Valentine's Day on this challenging 5-mile round trip to Buzzard's Roost. Join docent Steve Stolper for a 4-hour roundtrip hike to a dramatic rock formation with a commanding view of the park. We gain 1,200 feet in elevation on the way up. After a relaxed lunch on the rocks, we return to headquarters. Bring at least one liter of water, lunch, snacks, and appropriate clothing. Rain cancels. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Discover Big Basin Hike**

**Saturday, February 14 at 12 pm**

**AND Sunday, February 15 at 12 pm**

Explore some of the park's less travelled backcountry with docent naturalist Barry Grimm. This hike will be individually tailored to your group—so distance can vary from 2 to 8 miles, depending on your needs. The pace is always moderate—with occasional short stops to discover the park's unique animals, plants and other natural features. Based on group size, experience level and weather conditions, we will choose from the many trails that explore the park's most scenic areas. Dress in layers for changeable weather and temperatures. Bring sturdy walking shoes, water and trail snacks. Heavy rain cancels. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Romance in the Redwoods**

**Saturday, February 14 at 1 pm**

On this easy, two-hour walk you'll learn about the courtship behaviors of some of the park's most fascinating plants and animals. Join docent Paula Pierce and discover how some of Big Basin inhabitants celebrate love in the wild! Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Berry Creek Falls Hike**

**Sunday, February 15 at 9:30 am**

Travel deep into the heart of Big Basin as you experience a wide range of habitats on this moderate to strenuous 11-mile-loop hike. Wind through shady redwood canyons and climb dry ridges as you hike to the jewel of Big Basin—65-foot Berry Creek Falls. Bring lots of water, lunch and wear layers. Docent Bill Rhoades guides you on this seven-hour hike. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Mushroom Hunt!**

**Sunday, February 15 at 2 pm**

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### **Hike to Ocean View Summit**

**Saturday, February 21 at 10 am**

Escape the crowds on this 6-mile, 4.5-hour loop through shaded forest to a hilltop view of the coast. Join docent Steve Stolper as we climb the Meteor Trail through the trees, gaining 600 feet before emerging at Ocean View Summit. After a relaxed lunch we descend back into the forest and return to headquarters. Bring at least one liter of water, lunch, snacks, and appropriate clothing. This hike runs rain or shine. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Winter Wildflower Walk!**

**Saturday, February 21 at 10 am**

**AND Sunday, February 22 at 10 am**

Flowers in the winter? Fall rains bring a whole new blooming season upon us—many plants survived through the long, hot, dry summer just waiting for the cooler, wetter months to return and refresh them. Lichens, mosses and many chaparral plants just begin blooming this time of year! Join docent Scott Peden and learn to identify many of Big Basin's flowering plants. You'll also visit several historical spots within the park. Saturday's walk is a leisurely four-mile, four-hour amble that includes two chimney trees and a waterfall. Sunday's walk is a relaxed five-mile, five-hour amble that includes a chimney tree. Bring water and lunch. Meet at Park Headquarters.

Co-Sponsored by California State Parks and Mountain Parks Foundation

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